

Evening Prayer
June 23, 2022

Welcome

Prelude

Opening

Jesus Christ is the light of the world,
the light no darkness can overcome.
Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening,
and the day is almost over.
Let your light scatter the darkness
and illumine your church.

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
Whose steadfast love endures forever.
Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God,
we confess that we have not followed your path but have chosen our own way.
Instead of putting others before ourselves, we long to take the best seats at the table.
When met by those in need, we have too often passed by on the other side. Set us
again on the path of life. Save us from ourselves and free us to love our neighbors.
Amen.

Hear the good news!
God does not deal with us according to our sins but delights in granting pardon and
mercy. In the name of + Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven. We are free to love as God
loves.
Amen.

Thanksgiving for Light

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning you called light into being,
and you set lights in the sky to govern night and day.
In a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night
you led your people into freedom.

Enlighten our darkness by the light of your Christ;
may your Word be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path;
for you are merciful, and you love your whole creation, and with
all your creatures we give you glory, through your Son Jesus Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.
Amen.

Prayer

Let us pray.
Sovereign God, ruler of all hearts, you call us to obey you, and you favor us with true
freedom. Keep us faithful to the ways of your Son, that, leaving behind all that hinders
us, we may steadfastly follow your paths, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

Proverbs 3:1-18

¹My child, do not forget my teaching, but let your heart keep my commandments;
²for length of days and years of life and abundant welfare they will give you. ³Do not let
loyalty and faithfulness forsake you; bind them around your neck, write them on the
tablet of your heart. ⁴So you will find favor and good repute in the sight of God and of
people. ⁵Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight.
⁶In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths. ⁷Do not be
wise in your own eyes; fear the LORD, and turn away from evil. ⁸It will be a healing for
your flesh and a refreshment for your body. ⁹Honor the LORD with your substance
and with the first fruits of all your produce; ¹⁰then your barns will be filled with plenty,
and your vats will be bursting with wine. ¹¹My child, do not despise the LORD's
discipline or be weary of his reproof, ¹²for the LORD reproves the one he loves,
as a father the son in whom he delights. ¹³Blessed are those who find wisdom, and those
who get understanding, ¹⁴for her income is better than silver, and her revenue better than
gold. ¹⁵She is more precious than jewels, and nothing you desire can compare with her.
¹⁶Long life is in her right hand; in her left hand are riches and honor. ¹⁷Her ways are
ways of pleasantness, and all her paths are peace. ¹⁸She is a tree of life to those who lay
hold of her; those who hold her fast are called happy.

Psalm 77 *(read responsively by whole verse)*

**¹I cry aloud to God,
aloud to God, that he may hear me.
²In the day of my trouble I seek the LORD;
in the night my hand is stretched out without wearying;
my soul refuses to be comforted.
³I think of God, and I moan;
I meditate, and my spirit faints.
Selah**

**⁴You keep my eyelids from closing;
I am so troubled that I cannot speak.
⁵I consider the days of old,
and remember the years of long ago.
⁶I commune with my heart in the night;
I meditate and search my spirit:
⁷"Will the LORD spurn forever,
and never again be favorable?
⁸Has his steadfast love ceased forever?
Are his promises at an end for all time?
⁹Has God forgotten to be gracious?
Has he in anger shut up his compassion?"**

Selah

**¹⁰And I say, "It is my grief
that the right hand of the Most High has changed."
¹¹I will call to mind the deeds of the LORD;
I will remember your wonders of old.
¹²I will meditate on all your work,
and muse on your mighty deeds.
¹³Your way, O God, is holy.
What god is so great as our God?
¹⁴You are the God who works wonders;
you have displayed your might among the peoples.
¹⁵With your strong arm you redeemed your people,
the descendants of Jacob and Joseph.**

Selah

**¹⁶When the waters saw you, O God,
when the waters saw you, they were afraid;
the very deep trembled.
¹⁷The clouds poured out water;
the skies thundered;
your arrows flashed on every side.
¹⁸The crash of your thunder was in the whirlwind;
your lightnings lit up the world;
the earth trembled and shook.
¹⁹Your way was through the sea,
your path, through the mighty waters;
yet your footprints were unseen.
²⁰You led your people like a flock
by the hand of Moses and Aaron.**

Gloria Patri

**Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.
As it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be. Amen.**

Galatians 5:1, 13-23

¹For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

¹³For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become slaves to one another. ¹⁴For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." ¹⁵If, however, you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another. ¹⁶Live by the Spirit, I say, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh. ¹⁷For what the flesh desires is opposed to the Spirit, and what the Spirit desires is opposed to the flesh; for these are opposed to each other, to prevent you from doing what you want. ¹⁸But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not subject to the law. ¹⁹Now the works of the flesh are obvious: fornication, impurity, licentiousness, ²⁰idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, anger, quarrels, dissensions, factions, ²¹envy, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these. I am warning you, as I warned you before: those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. ²²By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, ²³gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Reflection

Response

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets,
but in these last days God has spoken to us by the Son.

Gospel Canticle (together)

Magnificat A Prayer-Paraphrase of Luke 1: 46-55

**We praise you, Lord,
and our spirits rejoice in you – our Saviour;**

**For you take notice of the unnoticeable,
and transform them into the blessed;**

**You are strong and true to yourself and all that is good
in everything you are and do and say;
and you do great things for us;**

**Through the ages you have shown compassion
to those who trust you,
And in your strength you have scattered
those who are arrogant and abusive;**

**You have made the thrones of tyrants topple
and you have made humble people into leaders of many;
You have cared for and provided for those who have nothing,
and you have left the over-satisfied with empty hands;**

**You have always been a help to your people,
and have shown mercy when we have gone astray;
You made this promise to our ancestors,
and you continue to stay true to it even now.**

**We praise you, Lord,
and our spirits rejoice in you – our Saviour. Amen.**

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Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the health of the creation, for abundant harvests that all may share, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord,

Lord, have mercy.

For public servants, the government, and those who protect us; for those who work to bring peace, justice, healing, and protection in this and every place, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For those who travel, for those who are sick and suffering, and for those who are in captivity, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For deliverance in the time of affliction, wrath, danger, and need, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For all servants of the church, for this assembly, and for all people who await from the Lord great and abundant mercy, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Giving thanks for all who have gone before us and are at rest, rejoicing in the communion of all the saints, we commend ourselves, one another, and our whole life to you, through Christ our Lord.

To you, O Lord.

O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works: give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments; and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, God forever.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

**Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen**

Written Offering

Benediction

Postlude

Blessed Assurance (vs. 1 & 3)
(next page)

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1 Bless-ed as-sur-ance, Je-sus is mine! Oh, what a fore-taste of glo-ry di-vine!
 2 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, per-fect de-light, vi-sions of rap-ture now burst on my sight;
 3 Per-fect sub-mis-sion, all is at rest; I in my Sav-ior am hap-py and blest,

Heir of sal-va-tion, pur-chase of God, born of his Spir-it, washed in his blood.
 an-gels de-scend-ing bring from a-bove ech-oes of mer-cy, whis-pers of love.
 watch-ing and wait-ing, look-ing a-bove, filled with his good-ness, lost in his love.

Refrain

This is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long:

this is my sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long.

Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820–1915
 Music: ASSURANCE, Phoebe P. Knapp, 1830–1908